

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Silvertip Pipeline Spill



USEPA Region 8



Subject: SITREP # 16 - August 25, 2011
Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill Response
Billings, Montana Latitude: 45° 39' 25.57" Longitude: 108° 44' 54.35"
Reporting Period: 0700 hours 08/18/11 to 0700 hours 08/25/11

Introduction

An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) has been directing and overseeing cleanup activities since arriving at the site on July 2, 2011. EPA issued the Responsible Party, ExxonMobil, a Clean Water Act 311(c) Administrative Order that outlines the requirements for the oil removal efforts and requires the development of a work plan that provides a framework for achieving the required endpoints. During this operational period, SCAT has completed some Combined Treatment Recommendations (CTRs) for the Division C area. The responsible party is focusing resources on addressing Division C high-priority segments based on claims, public land, or private land with public hunting rights. Re-SCAT (post cleanup verification) has begun in Divisions A and B this operational period, resulting in the first "no further treatment" determination. EPA has posted all of its sampling data to the website and this information has been communicated to the public.

1.1 Background Information

D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	7/2/11	Start Date:	7/2/11
RCRIS ID:			
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#: E11809		Reimbursable Account	

1.2 Site Inspection and Response Activities

EPA and the Unified Command modified the policies related to continued SCAT in Division C to postpone further assessments and focus on closing out segments within Divisions A and B. The SCAT teams recalibrated on a segment in Division B before taking "Hot Shot" crews with them to segments in the eastern part of Division B, nearest Billings. Re-assessments with SCAT and "Hot Shot" crews in these segments, which had not yet been worked by clean-up crews, proved an efficient way to clear residual oil and pass the segments without significant effort due to the weathering of oil since the initial SCAT assessments were conducted. Additional operational resources have been given to SCAT crews to continue this type of work in segments with light and very light oiling. There has been a focus on increasing efficiency within operations and as the segments with heavier oiling and large debris piles are completed. The goal is to complete the segments with the heavy and moderate oiling in all impacted areas before September 9, 2011, and ahead of the impending transition to a state-led clean-up effort. 96 segments of 133 requiring treatment within Divisions A and B are operationally complete with clean-up crews and 35 segments have been completely closed following re-assessment by SCAT teams. The RP has negotiated access to seven segments within Division A that were previously inaccessible due to legal concerns with property owners. These segments will need an initial assessment by SCAT crews, CTRs to be developed, clean-up crews to accomplish the CTR objectives, and a re-assessment by SCAT crews before they can be closed out. Some of this work may be referred to the MTDEQ for oversight, given the expected delays due to legal review of the process being employed.

EPA will be participating in a community meeting next Thursday evening, September 1, 2011, hosted by MTDEQ and EMPCo. This meeting will be the two-month anniversary of the spill and is intended to explain the clean-up progress, the SCAT methodology being used to achieve transition points, and the

long-term monitoring that will be overseen by MTDEQ. Libby Faulk, a community involvement coordinator from Region 8, has been asked to support this event and is coordinating with the PIOs from MTDEQ and EMPCo. This operational period has been extended to a 14-day cycle, and we are ramping down our command post presence in the next few days accordingly, demobilizing the EUL and SITL and not back-filling these positions. The remaining EPA resources beyond that point will be 4 SCAT members, an Operations Section Chief/Deputy IC, the ERT advisor, the FOOSC, and four USCG Strike Team Members. The ERT advisor will be demobilized, as will the Operations Section Chief/Deputy IC, following the current rotation, but additional rotations of SCAT may be necessary. As part of a larger strategic effort to transition the incident to more of a remediation or project phase, EPA and MTDEQ respectively are working to issue final approval of ExxonMobil's Clean Water Act 311(c) work plan and to put the necessary regulatory framework in place to allow EPA to begin transitioning the response and subsequent remediation effort to MTDEQ. As part of this transition, EPA will be gradually transitioning the resources currently assigned to SCAT activities into more of an operational oversight role, where they will help guide the cleanup activities towards a successful SCAT "no further treatment" determination. As part of this effort, federal resources will very likely not be involved in the further SCAT activities in Division C unless treatable oil is found.

Incident Objectives

The following incident objectives and command emphasis are taken from the IAP for the Operational Period #20 from August 18, 2011, at 0730 to August 25, 2011, at 0730.

General Response Objectives

1. Ensure the safety of the responders.
2. Execute the safe disposal, treatment and remediation of agricultural products.
3. Monitor the source of the spill.
4. Characterize and assess the impact to maximize the protection of public health and welfare.
5. Define impacted areas and calibrate the operation's effectiveness in accordance with CTRs (Combined Treatment Recommendations)
6. Contain and recover spilled material and prioritize cleanup of impacted debris piles.
7. Develop and execute a remediation work plan for impacted areas.
8. Execute sampling, disposal, cleanup and decontamination plan.
9. Prepare for transition to long term remediation plan implementation.
10. Manage a coordinated response effort and maintain unified command organization support scaled to the response.
11. Execute wildlife plan to recover and rehabilitate injured wildlife, and define endpoint to address impacted wildlife.
12. Keep stakeholders and public informed of response activities (Residential, Commercial, Agricultural, and Tribal). Maintain general media availability and access to field and command operations.

2.0 Background

On July 6, 2011, EPA issued an administrative order to ExxonMobil instructing the oil company to provide information on the circumstance of the spill, conduct appropriate recovery and remediation actions, and perform ongoing environmental sampling. The order required ExxonMobil to provide a workplan under Paragraph VI. ExxonMobil. Those documents have now been reviewed by EPA, the state of Montana, and other agency partners.

3.0 Current Operations

- In the operations section, EPA continued to assign 1 OSC as an operations advisor. Four USCG Strike Team personnel were deployed as field observers in Divisions A and B to monitor the cleanup effort.
- Operations coordinated closely with the SCAT/Ops Liaison and the Environmental Unit/TAG rep to address issues not covered within the Consolidated Treatment Recommendations.
- EPA continues to provide transport to the impacted islands within divisions A and B for U.S. Fish and Wildlife representatives, as requested, with the USCG Strike Team boat during daily PRP oversight trips.
- The large tree in A3 has been cut and moved aside and the oil in the sediment and water below is being cleaned. Once the area is cleaned, the tree will be replaced in its original location, along with other clean woody debris, in a manner that replicates a natural woody debris pile. A smaller woody debris pile on A3 has been removed, the area below cleaned, and the woody debris replaced in a natural setting.
- The Strike Team completed operations on A6 Island. The area is now ready for PIST.
- Operations are complete on B18 Island. The area is now ready for PIST. Operations are complete in Division B at B47, B17, B19, and B24. These areas are now ready for PIST. Operations are complete in Division A at A22LB, A29RB, and these areas are ready for PIST. Operations are complete and ready for re-SCAT at A8, A28LB, A29LB and A29 Island.
- The wildlife rehab was maintained for the rescue of oiled wildlife.
- Airboats are being deployed in areas where the river has dropped below levels inaccessible to jet boats.

****Note:** The projected work schedule is an estimate on where operations will happen within the next operational period. It doesn't mean that work will be completed within this projected timeframe.

Silvertip Incident IAP 14-Day Plan by Segment Period 21; 8-25-2011

	Beginning of Period															
Segment	% Complete	Thurs 8/25/11	Fri 8/26/11	Sat 8/27/11	Sun 8/28/11	Mon 8/29/11	Tues 8/30/11	Wed 8/31/11	Thurs 9/1/11	Fri 9/2/11	Sat 9/3/11	Sun 9/4/11	Mon 9/5/11	Tues 9/6/11	Wed 9/7/11	Thurs 9/8/11
Division A																
A21-IS	55%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	PIST
A23-LB, A24-LB, A25-LB	30%	X	X	X	X	X	PIST		RESC AT							
A23-RB	100%	PIST		RESCAT												
A29-RB	50%	X	X	X	X	X	X	PIST		RESC AT						
Division B																
B32-RB	0%						X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
B17-RB	60%	X	X	X	PIST		RESCAT									
B18-RB	98%	X	X	X	PIST		RESCAT									
B9-LB	0%				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
B10-LB	0%				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
B02-RB	98%	X	PIST		RESCAT											
B46-RB	98%	X	X	PIST		RESCAT										
B47-RB	98%	X	X	X	PIST		RESCAT									
B21-RB	0%			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
B24-RB	95%	X	X	PIST		RESCAT										
B29-LB	80%	X	X	X	X	X	PIST		RESC AT							
B32-IS	0%			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
B33-LB	0%				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
B30-RB	0%						X	X	X	X	X		PIST		RESCAT	
B31-RB	30%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	PIST		RESCAT					
B01-LB	75%	X	PIST		RESCAT											
Division C																
Claims Only																
Water Based Operations																
A03-IS	80%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		PIST		RESCAT	

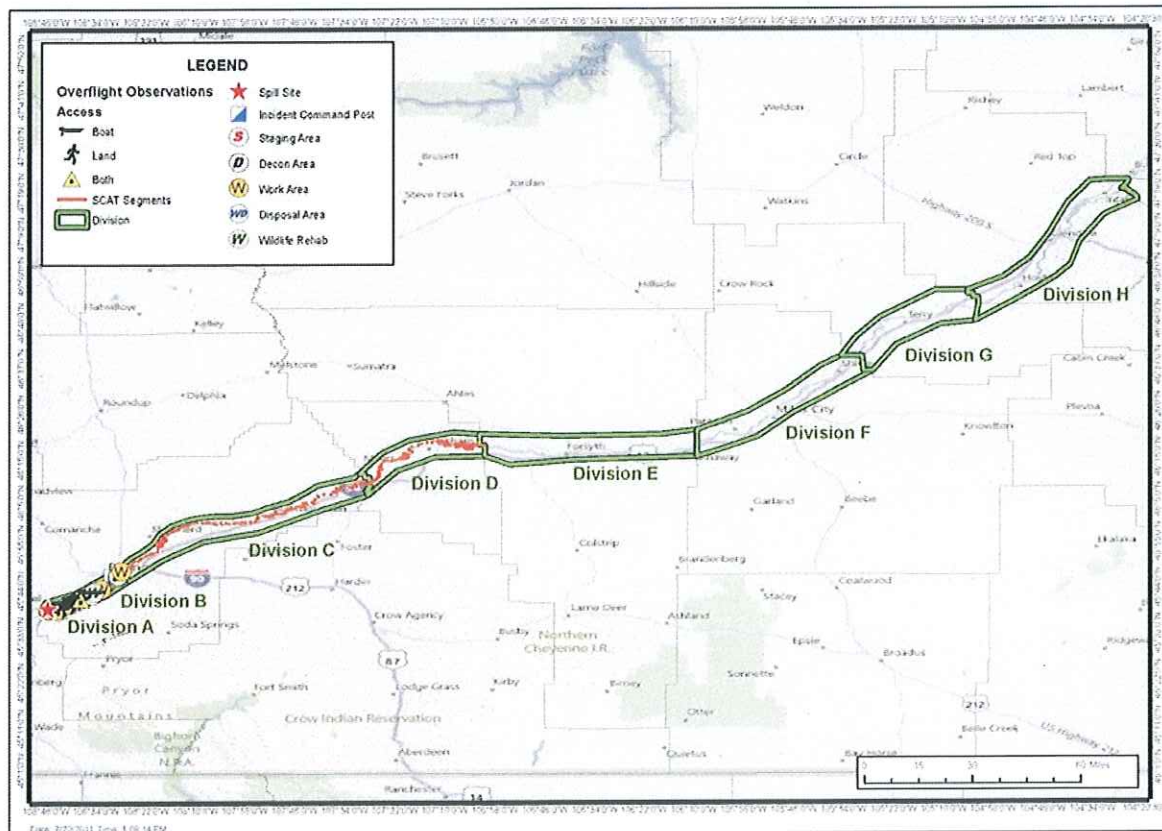


08/24/11 Sheen on Yellowstone River

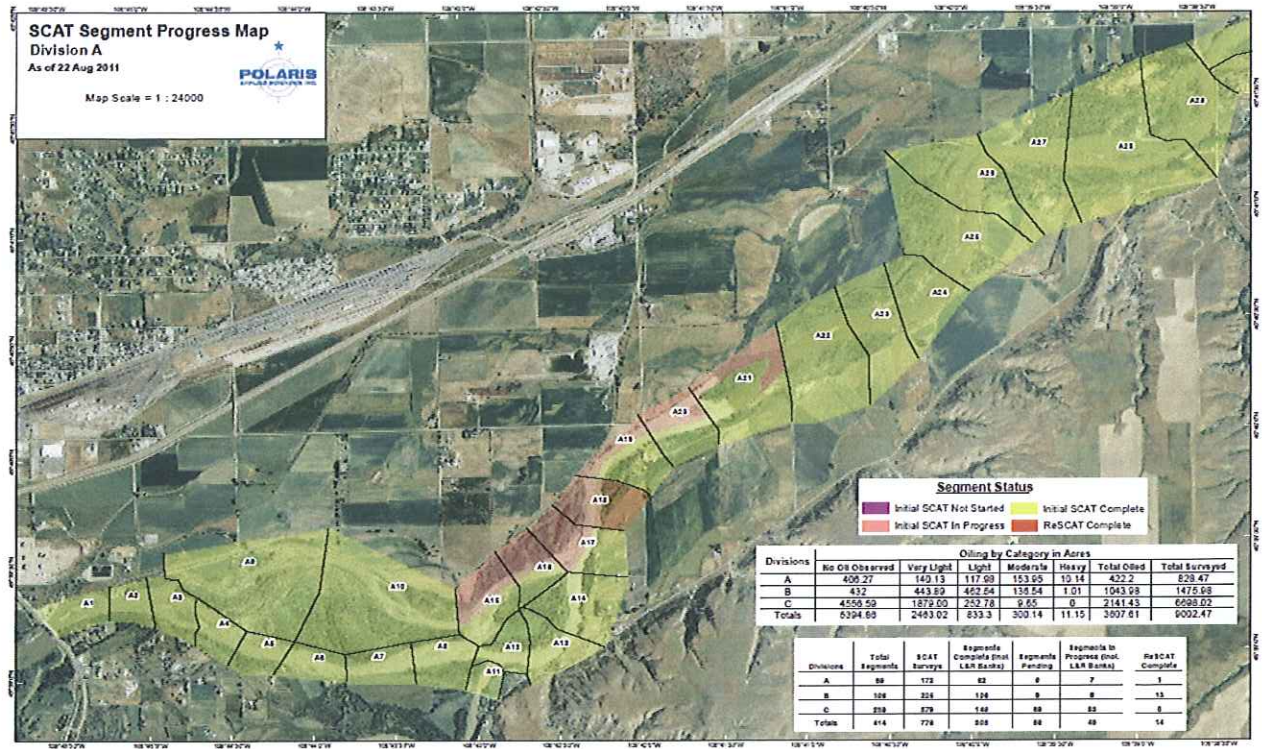


08/24/11 Yellowstone River debris near Laurel

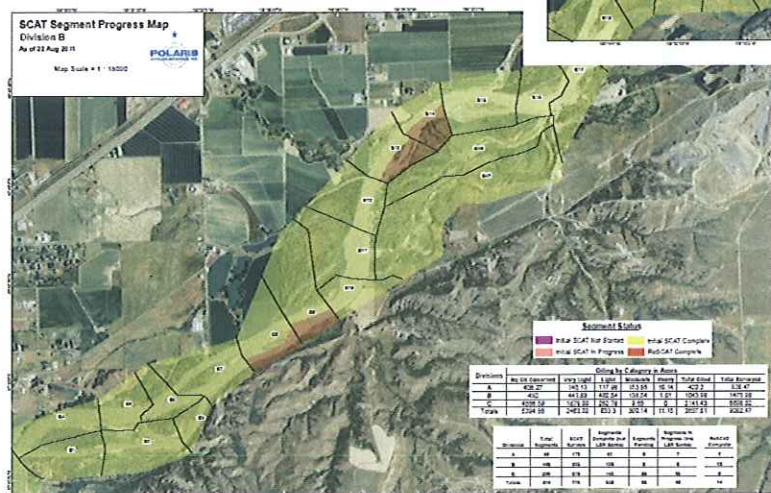
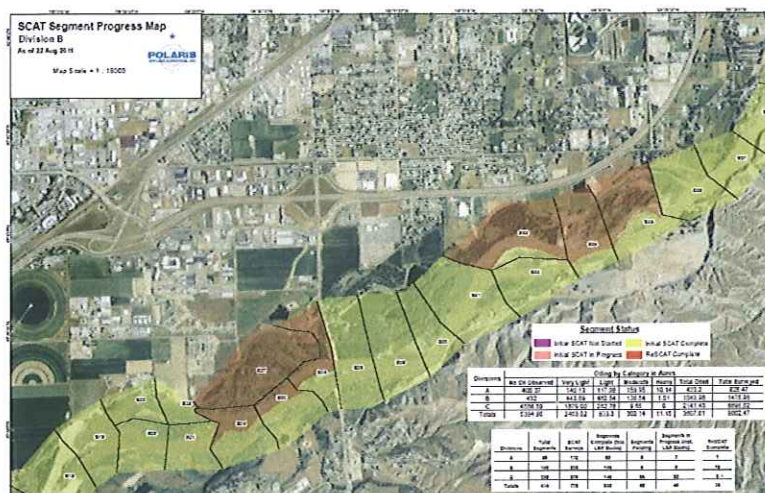
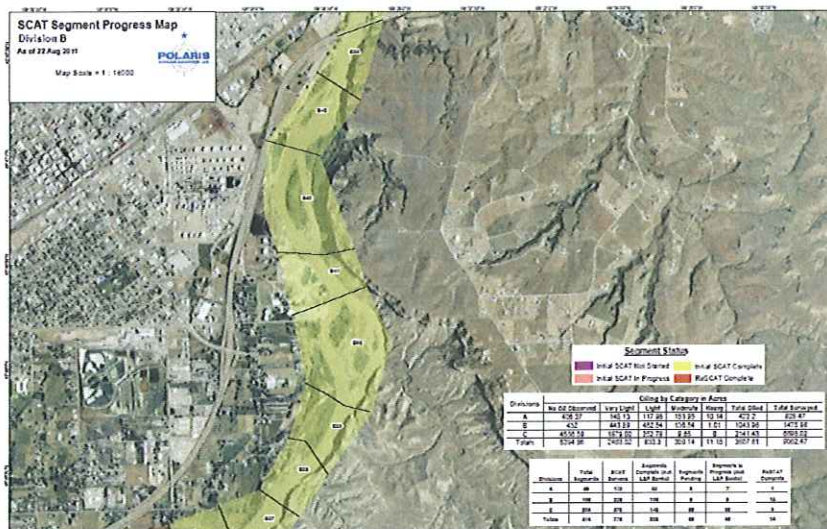
7-28 Silvertip Pipeline Incident Work Areas Overview



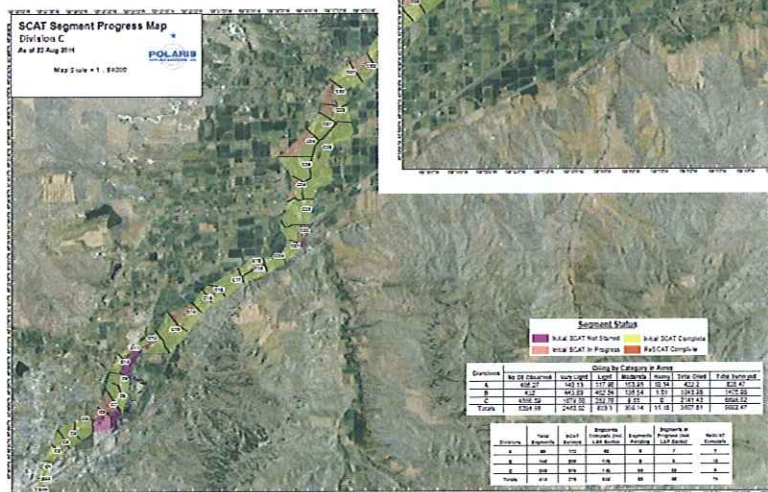
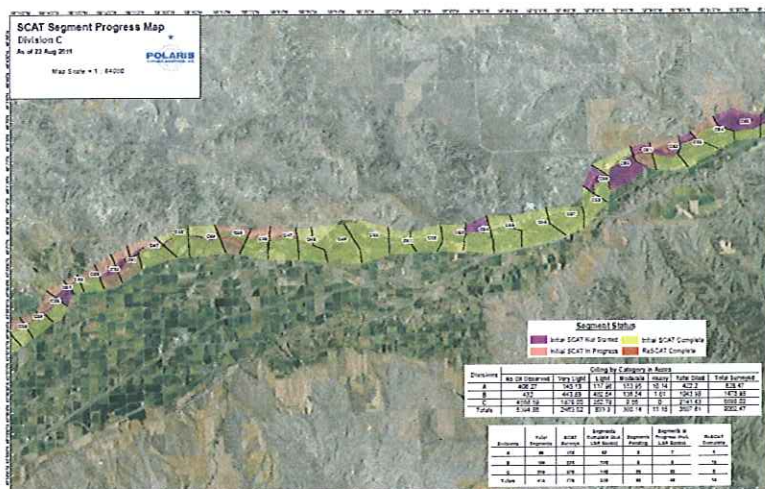
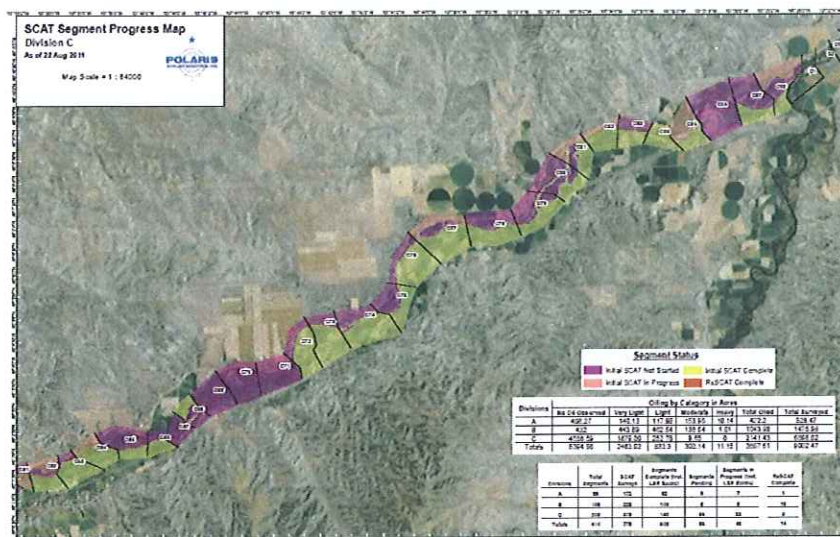
Division A – SCAT Segment Progress Map



Division B – SCAT Segment Progress Map



Division C – SCAT Segment Progress Map



SCAT Monitoring Data and Areas Surveyed

Work Site Summary (as of August 23, 2011)										
Division	Total Segments	Initial SCAT			CTR Segments without CTR	Operations			Re-SCAT	
		Segments Pending	Segments in Progress	Segments Completed		Segments in Progress	Segments Completed	Acres Completed	Segments Completed	Acres Completed
A	69	0	7	62	44	11	39	507.61	14	105
B	106	0	0	106	89	15	37	466.6	21	313.6
C	239	66	33	140	34	0	20	95.64	0	0
Totals	414	66	40	308	167	26	96	1069.85	35	418.6

SCAT Monitoring Data (as of August 23, 2011)								
Work Area	SCAT Surveys Conducted	Oil Impact, acres <1>					Total Oil Impacts	Total Surveyed
		No Oil Observed	Very Light	Light	Moderate	Heavy		
A	172	419.01	143.86	118.45	153.95	10.27	426.17	845.18
B	225	432.00	443.89	462.54	136.54	1.01	1043.98	1475.98
C	379	5080.56	2069.43	252.78	9.48	0.00	2331.79	7412.35
D	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Totals	776	5931.57	2657.18	833.87	299.61	11.28	3801.94	9733.51
Comments: <1> Represents miles of impacted areas observed during completed SCATS <2> Segments evaluated include only partial shorelines in each segments pending boat access due to unsafe river Conditions.								

START and CTEH Samples

All START members are updating the database remotely from Denver. Database is being audited and corrected daily.

LATEST UPDATE: 08/24/11			07/03/11- 07/09/11		7/10/11- 7/16/11		7/17/11- 07/23/11		07/24/11- 07/29/11		07/30/11- 08/04/11		08/05/11- 08/16/11		08/17/11- 08/22/11		TOTAL COLL'TED TO DATE:	
			EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil	EPA	Exxon Mobil
Water	Well	Surface	6	9	2	8	1	27	3	27		9		15		3	12	98
		Drinking	5	28	16	26	1	12		9		11		13		7	22	106
		Irrigation	1	11	3	14		1		3		5		5			4	39
Soil					69				18		4		88		57	69	167	
Sediment					27			4								31	0	
Air			6	62		77		69		44						6	252	
Product			4						3							4	3	
Total			22	110	117	125	2	109	7	104	0	29	0	121	0	67	148	665
EPA % Confirmation			20		94		2		7		0		0		0		22	

4.0 Environmental Unit Activities

Technical Advisory Group. The TAG continues to meet weekly to address technology and treatment method issues as they arise. During this operating period, the following TAG products were completed.

- UIC approved the TAG developed Addendum to ATM 3 (Large Woody Debris/Other Hard Surfaces). This addendum clarified that Operations may choose to chip and remove from site oiled woody debris between 4 inches and 12 inches in diameter and that stained or clean material could be cut into the largest possible manageable pieces to facilitate access to oil.
- UIC approved the TAG developed Addendum to ATM 3, 6, and 10 [BMPs for Woody Debris Redistribution following Cleanup Operations]. This addendum provides to Operations BMPs for redistributing clean woody debris that was moved as a part of cleanup operations. Direction is included for rebuilding debris piles and for the random redistribution of clean debris that was sorted and stacked during operations.
- UIC approved the TAG developed Process Flow which defines the process by which operational issues are taken to the TAG for review and resolution.

The EUL continues to participate in all required Incident Command meetings as scheduled. EUL coordination meetings are held in the ICP at a minimum twice weekly.

EUL continues to coordinate with Montana agencies daily including, but not limited to MDEQ, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Montana DNRC, the Crow Tribal Nation, and the Governor's appointee for Burial Grounds.

Cultural representatives are imbedded with the SCAT Teams and with Operations whenever possible to ensure coordination with Crow Nation and Cultural/Historical Preservation.

SCAT Technical Liaison Fred Stroud (ERT) was replaced on 8/21 by JoAnn Eskelsen who is in the field and provides technical support to OPS and SCAT teams as requested.

State of Montana sample analytical data are on the SCRIBE database available via subscription. EUL is resolving MDEQ comments on the screening level tables that are being used for the response. Sample data includes soils, surface water, drinking water and irrigation water from samples collected at the request of residents who contacted the state hotline.

5.0 Data Management

- Continued to update the Scribe database with new analytical data from START, and worked with CTEH to ensure ExxonMobil data is updated in the combined Scribe database. Also worked with Montana Department of Environmental Quality to convert their data to a Scribe database and added the state data to the combined Scribe database.

6.0 Additional Operations

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SITREP # 16 - August 25, 2011

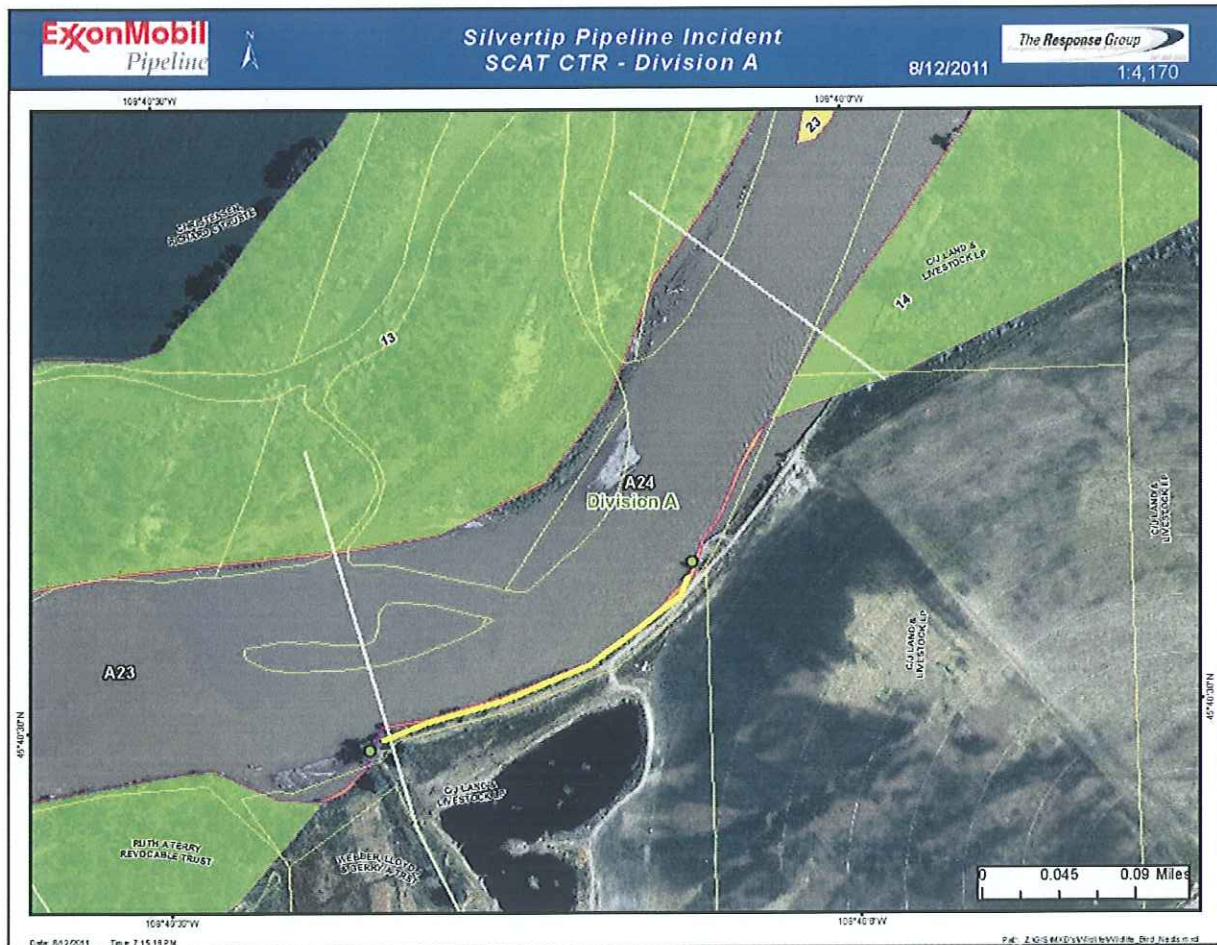
- **Personnel:** The US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) continued to provide operational support and advice regarding Service Trust Resources and other wildlife resource issues during Operational Period #16 (OpPer16) with three personnel: a Wildlife Branch Deputy (Chris Cline 8/18/11 and Karen Nelson 8/19/2011-8/25/2011) and two resource advisors (READs). READs are participating in daily land and boat-based surveys of the operational area to identify resources at risk and assist Operations crews in mitigating these risks.
- **Resources at Risk:** Currently, the one of the Service's highest priority resources-at-risk area is an approximately 1,000 ft. stretch of oiled riparian vegetation in Operations Area A24-RB. This area currently has easily transferrable oil in a band about two feet thick which extends approximately 100 feet inland from the riverbank, and is the only location to our knowledge where oiled birds are still being observed (Figure 1). ExxonMobil has reached an agreement with the landowner to move forward on this site.
- **Resource Areas of Concern:** During OpPer16 the Wildlife Branch continued to work with Operations Quick Response Crews designated for addressing wildlife concerns. These crews addressed wildlife priority areas on A-3 Island, A-6 RB, A-28 Island and will begin the B-1 Island complex (this complex includes priority segments B-1 LB, B-2 LB, B-4 LB, B4 RB, B5-rb) on 8/25/2011.
 - The Service participated in a Restoration Plan meeting to address the reclamation of response created roads once response is complete. These plans will be applied to both public and private lands. The Service will be providing seed mix recommendations as well as vendors for seed mixes.
- **Wildlife Branch Transition Plan:** The Service worked to finalize the transition plan for the duration and level of effort that will be provided by ExxonMobil. This plan will provide guidance of response efforts for wildlife throughout the duration of cleanup operations. This plan has been signed and is now part of the IAP.
 - Wildlife Operations continues to responds to oiled wildlife and this operational period IBR reached 100 animals cleaned and released. Many of these have been Woodhouse's Toads (Figure 2)

Figure 1. Location of oiled riparian vegetation in area A24-LB (left bank) where oiled wildlife (migratory birds) have been observed during Operational Period 15, August 15-17, 2011, Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill Response, Yellowstone River, Montana.

Type	Captured	Cleaned	Released	DOA
Bird	17	4	4	14
Mammal	6			6
Reptile	11	11	11	
Fish	84			86
Other	107	106	103	1
Total	225	121	118	107



Figure 2 Cleaning of Woodhouse's Toad



[illegible]

Montana Department of Environmental Quality
August 24, 2011

Staffing and Logistics

- The next IAP was signed today. This will cover the 14-day operational period from 8/25/11 to 9/7/11.
- Buddy Hand will be picking up Claims Crops coordination for Exxon from Tom Henson for the next 3 to 5 weeks.
- 100 toads have been cleaned and released so far.

Decision-Making

- The strategy initiated yesterday to prioritize all SCAT assets was very successful. This change pulled SCAT assets out of Division C and put them into Divisions A & B to re-SCATing segments cleaned by Operations and to accompany small Operations Hot Shot Teams (approximately 5 cleanup personnel) into lightly oiled segments that have not yet been cleaned by Operations. The Hot Shot / SCAT crews immediately addressed oiled areas while SCAT identified them. Also, many previously identified areas of oiling have been significantly degraded by natural processes since original SCAT. A total of 4 segments cleaned by Operations were cleared during re-SCAT and 3 segments (all in Division B) were cleared with the Hot Shot crews yesterday. Today, 19 additional segments were re-SCAT'd and 18 passed. This apparent acceleration in completions is the primary consideration in projecting transition from federal to state lead at September 9.
- Initial SCATing exceeded 9,000 acres yesterday (2/3 of that acreage is in Division C).
- Exxon successfully negotiated access to several private properties in 7 different segments where the landowners are being represented by a single common attorney. This is important, because at least one of the properties has been a source of ongoing wildlife impacts. These areas will now be scheduled for initial SCAT, cleanup, and re-SCAT.
- The public meeting tentatively scheduled for next Wednesday has been moved to Thursday. Exxon offered to send out the meeting notice. Dale Getz indicated that his concept of the operation was that Richard Opper will conduct the meeting. FOSC will discuss SCAT and weathering of oil. Exxon will discuss Claims processes.

Emerging / Ongoing Topics

- Karin Boyd from the Yellowstone River Conservation District confirmed the details of her request to have SOSOC provide and update on the oil spill at the District's Counsel Meeting next Tuesday. I will prepare a 20-minute presentation.
- SOSOC accompanied FOSC and FWS personnel in the field today to observe areas on continuing cleanup needs in A-29RB, A-6&7RB, A-1RB (to include Turtle Bond and south bank of pipeline crossing). The pipeline is clearly visible beneath the water (see attached photo).

7.0 Response Metrics

All progress metrics in are reported by ExxonMobil unless otherwise indicated.

Boom/Sorbent Report (8-18/8-19/8-20/8-21 off/8-22/8-23/8-24 data)

	Staged	Assigned
Sorbent: Boom Available (in feet)	59,620/59,220/58,460/off/58,460/58,380/58,340	43,380/48,780/49,540/off/49,040/49,120/49,160
Sorbent: Rolls (in rolls)	62/62/58/off/58/58/56	206/206/210/off/210/210/212
Sorbent: Pads (in bales)	1,844/1,841/1,840/off/1,813/1,808/1,806	1,332/1,335/1,336/off/1,352/1,357/1,359
Boom (in feet)	100/100/100/off/100/100/100	300/300/300/off/300/300/300
Viscous (in bags)	3,455/3,453/3,450/off/3,450/3,450/3,450	293/295/298/off/298/298/298

Estimated Soil and Debris Waste Tracking (/8-18/8-19/8-20/8-21 off/8-22/8-23/8-24 data)

Waste Stream	Recovered	Stored	Disposed
Oily Liquids (bbls)	942/942/942/off/942/942/942	0/0/0/0/off/0/0/0	942/942/942/off/942/942/942
Oily Solids (yd ³)	6,621/6,826/7,058/off/7,394/7,731/7,731	1,200/1,095/1,230/off/1,370/1,402/1,357	5,421/5,731/5,828/off/6,024/6,229/6,374
Decon Liquid	0/0/0/off/0/0/0	485/485/460.5/off/531.5/536/530	0/0/0/off/0/0/0

8.0 Situation Unit: Activities for Next Reporting Period

The next reporting period (SITREP #17) will cover August 25, 2011 0700 to September 8, 2011 0700.

9.0 Liaison/Public Information Officer (No new info.)

This position is no longer staffed on-site in Billings, MT. All PIO activities are being handled from the Regional office.

10.0 Finance Section

The current FPN ceiling is \$3.25 Million. Approximately 80.41% of the ceiling (\$3,250,000) has been expended or obligated through August 24, 2011. The latest estimated burn rate is \$13,896 per day, which includes indirect charges. These cost summaries reflect only EPA-funded expenditures for the incident.

FPN E11809 - Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill

As of: 08/24/2011

START Contractor (Ceiling)	Est.Exp.	Est Burn Rate (Latest Daily)
R8, R6, R10 START - \$645,000* Sampl'g, Comm. Resp. Support	\$757,875	NA Presently
Response Contractor Sub-Totals	\$757,875	NA Presently
EPA Funded Costs:		
Total EPA Personnel Costs* Totals/Burn Rate Loaded with 17.5% Indirect Rate	\$837,303	\$13,896
Pollution Removal Funding Agreements:		
Total Other Agencies (\$1,018,000)**	\$1,018,000	
Sub-Totals	\$2,613,178	\$13,896
Total Est. Oil Spill Cost	\$2,613,178	\$13,896
Oil Spill Ceiling authorized by USCG	\$3,250,000	
Balance of Funds	\$636,822	
Percent Utilized	80.41 %	

*Totals/Burn Rates Loaded with 17.5% Indirect Rate – Adjusted for Actuals - Reduction

** Pollution Removal Funding Agreements Cost W/O Indirect Rate

11.0 Personnel on Site

Agency/Entity	Numbers Reported 8/24/11
EPA	12
NOAA	0
USFWS	5
USCG	4
Total	21

12.0 Additional Information

For additional information, please refer to: <http://www.epa.gov/yellowstoneriverspill/>

13.0 Reporting Schedule

SITREPs are issued on the first day of the operational period and will continue until the UC establishes a different reporting schedule. SitReps are posted to:

R08_Documentation_Unit_Leader@epa.gov